

Senate File 182 - Introduced

SENATE FILE _____
BY BOLKCOM

Passed Senate, Date _____ Passed House, Date _____
Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____ Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____
Approved _____

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to restrictions on the use of fertilizer
2 containing phosphorus on turf and making a penalty applicable.
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:
4 TLSB 2244SS 83
5 tm/nh/5

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1 1 Section 1. Section 200.3, Code 2009, is amended by adding
2 the following new subsection:
3 NEW SUBSECTION. 27A. "Turf" means noncrop land planted
4 with closely mowed, managed grasses including but not limited
5 to residential and commercial property, private golf courses,
6 and property owned by the state or a political subdivision of
7 the state including parks, recreation areas, and public golf
8 courses. "Turf" does not mean pasture, hay, turf grown on
9 turf farms, or any other form of agricultural production.
10 Sec. 2. NEW SECTION. 200.23 TURF FERTILIZER
11 RESTRICTIONS.

12 1. A person may apply a fertilizer containing phosphorus
13 to turf only under any of the following circumstances:

14 a. A tissue, soil, or other test by a laboratory or other
15 method approved by the secretary and performed within the
16 three years prior to application indicates that the level of
17 available phosphorus in the soil is insufficient to support
18 healthy turf growth.

19 b. The property owner or an agent of the property owner is
20 first establishing turf by seed or sod procedures. Fertilizer
21 containing phosphorus may only be applied during the first
22 growing season following the application of the seed or sod
23 procedure.

24 c. The fertilizer containing the phosphorus is used on
25 golf course turf under the direction of a person licensed,
26 certified, or approved by an organization with an ongoing turf
27 management training program approved by the secretary.

28 2. Applications of fertilizer containing phosphorus
29 pursuant to subsection 1 shall not exceed rates approved by
30 the secretary.

31 3. The secretary, in consultation with the Iowa
32 cooperative extension service in agriculture and home
33 economics, shall produce consumer information on restrictions
34 and recommended best practices for lawn fertilizer containing
35 phosphorus, and on best management practices for other
2 1 residential sources of phosphorus in the urban landscape. The
2 2 information must be in a format and of a content suitable for
2 3 posting and distribution at retail points of sale of
2 4 fertilizer that contains phosphorus and is for use on turf.

EXPLANATION

2 6 This bill relates to restrictions on the use of fertilizer
2 7 containing phosphorus on turf.

2 8 The bill allows a person to apply a fertilizer containing
2 9 phosphorus to turf only under three circumstances:

2 10 1. A tissue, soil, or other test by a laboratory or other
2 11 method approved by the secretary and performed within the
2 12 three years prior to application indicates that the level of
2 13 available phosphorus in the soil is insufficient to support
2 14 healthy turf growth.

2 15 2. The property owner is first establishing turf by seed
2 16 or sod procedures.

2 17 3. The fertilizer containing the phosphorus is used on
2 18 golf course turf under the direction of a person licensed,

2 19 certified, or approved by an organization with an ongoing turf
2 20 management training program approved by the secretary of
2 21 agriculture.

2 22 The bill provides that allowable applications of fertilizer
2 23 containing phosphorus shall not exceed rates approved by the
2 24 secretary of agriculture.

2 25 The bill requires the secretary of agriculture, in
2 26 consultation with the Iowa cooperative extension service in
2 27 agriculture and home economics, to produce consumer
2 28 information on restrictions and recommended best practices for
2 29 lawn fertilizer containing phosphorus, and on best management
2 30 practices for other residential sources of phosphorus in the
2 31 urban landscape.

2 32 The bill defines the term "turf" to mean noncrop land
2 33 planted with closely mowed, managed grasses including but not
2 34 limited to residential and commercial property, private golf
2 35 courses, and property owned by the state or a political
3 1 subdivision of the state including parks, recreation areas,
3 2 and public golf courses. "Turf" does not mean pasture, hay,
3 3 turf grown on turf farms, or any other form of agricultural
3 4 production.

3 5 A criminal penalty of a simple misdemeanor is applicable to
3 6 violations of the provisions of the bill. A simple
3 7 misdemeanor is punishable by confinement for not more than 30
3 8 days or a fine of at least \$65 but not more than \$625 or by
3 9 both.

3 10 LSB 2244SS 83

3 11 tm/nh/5